



Date: March 29, 2012
To: Workforce Development Board Executive Directors
From: Jane Pawasarat, Director
Subject: **Workforce Investment Act Policy 12-02**
Update of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Purpose

This transmits the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Annual Update of the DHHS Poverty Guidelines to account for last calendar year's increase in prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index. Annually, the U.S. DHHS issues poverty guidelines that all federal programs must use if said programs include income-related criteria based on the federal poverty guidelines. These guidelines are for use in determining Workforce Investment Act (WIA) youth program eligibility and local income-related policies. These local policies include those related to determining priority of service, defining self-sufficiency, interim employment, and providing needs-related payments under the WIA. Therefore, WIA Policy 12-02 is based on the 2012 Poverty Guidelines issued on January 26, 2012, in the Federal Register.

Note: The Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) also used in the WIA to determine eligibility for youth and eligibility for adults for certain services is typically released by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) between March and June. The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) WIA Policy for LLSIL will be issued shortly thereafter. Until such time, continued adherence to WIA Policy 11-03 remains in effect for LLSIL.

Legislative/Regulatory References

- Federal Register/Volume 77, Number 17/Thursday, January 26, 2012/Notices, [pp. 4034-35].
- WIA of 1998, Public Law 105-220-August 7, 1998 112 Stat. 936: Section 101 (9), (13), (25), and (36); Section 127(b)(2)(C); Section 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV); and Section 134(d)(3)(A)(ii), (d)(4)(E), and (e)(3)(C)(ii).

Policy

For WIA programs, the federal poverty guidelines must be considered in determining eligibility for youth program services and can be used for determining priority of services for adults and dislocated workers to receive intensive and training services. The federal poverty guidelines may also be considered in the development of local definitions for self-sufficiency, eligibility for needs-related payments, interim employment, and other income-related policies.

Effective today, WIA Policy 12-02 shall be used as the foundation for determining eligible youth for WIA services and for determining priority of WIA services for adults and dislocated workers to receive intensive and training services. Furthermore, WIA Policy 12-02 may be considered in the development of local definitions for self-sufficiency, eligibility for needs-related payments, and other income-related policies.

2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Persons in the family/household	100% Annually	100% <u>Monthly</u>
1	\$11,170	\$931
2	\$15,130	\$1,261
3	\$19,090	\$1,591
4	\$23,050	\$1,921
5	\$27,010	\$2,251
6	\$30,970	\$2,581
7	\$34,930	\$2,911
8	\$38,890	\$3,241
Each additional person beyond 8 add	\$3,960	\$330

Action Required

Review and implement these revised federal poverty guidelines for the WIA youth eligibility and other income-related policies. Distribution of this policy should also be directed to all service providers for your local area.

Automated System Support for Employment and Training (ASSET) Reporting

For use with Youth, the following required fields are to be completed:

In ASSET Manage Programs, Title 1 Youth tab:

1. "Enter Family Size"
2. "Income Previous Six Months": Select the appropriate choice from the dropdown menu: At or below FPL, At or below LLSIL, or Not Low Income.

For use with Adults, the following required fields are to be completed:

In ASSET Manage Programs, Title 1 Adult tab:

1. "Enter Family Size"
2. "Income Previous Six Months": Select the appropriate choice from the dropdown menu: At or below FPL, At or below LLSIL, or Not Low Income.

Questions and/or Technical Assistance and Training

If you need additional information regarding this policy, please contact the Local Program Liaison assigned to your area.

An electronic version of WIA Policy 12-02 is available at:
<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/wia/policy.htm>